

# Plans for Independent Regatta Association to Meet at Raleigh Hotel Next Saturday

## A BUSY DAY TOMORROW!

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## RIVERS-MITCHELL BATTLE FEATURE BOUT THIS WEEK

The boxing calendar for the current week contains three bouts that should appeal especially to ring followers. On Monday night at Cincinnati, Joe Rivers, the swarthy Greaser, will engage Richie Mitchell, light-weight sensation of Wisconsin, in a ten-round bout. On Tuesday night Ted Lewis and Willie Ritchie are slated for a return engagement of ten rounds, and on Friday night Fred Fulton and Porky Flynn will step through twenty rounds or less at New Orleans.

Cincinnati boxing fans have developed a great liking for Richie Mitchell as a result of the youngster's masterly work against Johnny Kilbane not so very long ago. Mitchell has fought and made a fine showing against such notoplayers as Dundee, Wolgast, Asvedo and Kilbane, and he is looked upon as a sure comer. He will have a hard test, with Rivers, as Ritchie showed in his recent match with Dundee that he still is a formidable factor in the light-weight division.

The return bout between Lewis and Ritchie is expected to furnish many thrills as their first battle was a hummer for ten rounds. Perhaps Lewis will score enough points to again secure the newspaper decision, but Middle-Western boxing patrons, now that they have seen Lewis in action, do not believe that he is a better fighter than the California Dutchman. Lewis is a flashy boxer and a speed marvel over the ten-round route, but it is doubtful if he can stand the gaff of a long fight as manfully as Ritchie has proven that he can. In a twenty-round bout between Ritchie and Lewis, Milwaukee and Chicago boxing fans would go in hook, line and sinker on the California cop.

They have sidetracked the Minnesota reed, Fred Fulton, in the negotiations for a world's heavy-weight championship match, but they do not discourage the big fellow. Realizing that he cannot combat against the pressure of public opinion, Fulton has instructed his manager, Mike Collins, to accept matches with all the leading heavies mentioned as prospective opponents of Jess Willard, the idea in Fulton's mind being to eliminate these men and thereby prove he is the logical heavy champion. Fulton is signed to meet Porky Flynn at New Orleans. If he emerges victorious, Fulton will go to New York, where it is proposed that he meet Jim Coffey in a ten-round bout. A match with Moran will follow then, providing Coffey is disposed of, and if Moran likewise is beaten, Fulton believes that the public will be ready to accept him as a legitimate challenger.

Todd Cowley seems to be a better fighter than many persons give him credit for being. Jim Cowley's prize has been improving in almost every battle.

Harry Willard is being boosted as the only man who can fight against Jess Willard, but here he never will fight a colored man.

### BOXING BOUTS THIS WEEK

Ritchie Mitchell vs. Joe Rivers, ten rounds, at Cincinnati.

Jimmy Duffy vs. Jack Perry, twelve rounds, at Columbus, Ohio.

Jack Dillon vs. Tom Cowler, ten rounds, at New York City.

Dick Gilbert vs. Vic Hanson, ten rounds, at Kansas City, Mo.

Dan McDonald vs. Johnny Howard, twelve rounds, at Pittsfield, Mass.

Dave Powers vs. Joe Chick, twelve rounds, at Gloucester, Mass.

Tuesday, January 25.

George Chaney vs. Eddie Wallace, fifteen rounds, at Baltimore, Md.

Young Wallace vs. Packey Hommey, ten rounds, at Minneapolis, Minn.

Willie Ritchie vs. Ted Lewis, ten rounds, at New York City.

Charley Welner vs. Jim Savage, ten rounds, at New York City.

Freddie Welsh vs. Johnny Griffith, twelve rounds, at Akron, Ohio.

Wednesday, January 26.

Hal Clark vs. Young White, ten rounds, at Marshallfield, Wis.

Joe Burger vs. Red Kelly, ten rounds, at Iowa City, Iowa.

Jack Abel vs. Dick Adams, eight rounds, at Chattanooga, Tenn.

Leach Cross vs. Frank Whitney, ten rounds, at New York.

Thursday, January 27.

Jimmy Duffy vs. Kid Curley, ten rounds, at Buffalo, N. Y.

Allie Nack vs. Curly Phelan, ten rounds, at New York City.

Battling Rudy vs. Hal Clark, ten rounds, at La Crosse, Wis.

Joe Welling vs. Bud White, ten rounds, at La Crosse, Wis.

Yankee Schwartz vs. Speedy Davis, ten rounds, at Hartford, Conn.

Friday, January 28.

Fred Fulton vs. Porky Flynn, twenty rounds, at New Orleans.

Jack Dillon vs. Billy Mike, ten rounds, at Superior, Wis.

Saturday, January 29.

Mickey Sheridan vs. Harry Trendall, ten rounds, at Kansas City, Mo.

## SOUTHERN OARSMEN TO MEET AT RALEIGH HOTEL NEXT SATURDAY PLAN INDEPENDENT ASSOCIATION

Representatives from All Sections of the South Will Gather to Consider Forming Separate Body. Opinions Vary on Question.

By EUGENE M. FOSTER.

Oarsmen in all sections of the South are interested in the meeting to be held at the Raleigh Hotel next Saturday night, when delegates from various clubs in this vicinity will meet to discuss the advisability of forming a new rowing association.

The aim of the association will be to stimulate a more active interest in the rowing game throughout the South and from present reports the plan bids fair to be a success.

So far three clubs have expressed their intention of joining the association, namely, the Arjela and Arundel, of Baltimore, and the Virginia Boat Club, of Richmond, and it is expected that at least three others will come in when the plan is fully explained at the meeting on Saturday night.

Washington's rowing clubs have not as yet signified their intention of coming into the fold, it being understood that they intended waiting until a plan is thoroughly discussed at the meeting before definitely deciding.

The clubs in this section in addition to those mentioned above, who now have crews and are expected to join the association are the Severn, of Annapolis, and the Old Dominion, of Alexandria. While it is thought that once the thing gets started other clubs throughout the South will take up the sport and enter crews in the regattas.

The tentative plan so far suggested is to hold a regatta each year in Baltimore or Washington with entries open only to representatives from clubs South of Philadelphia.

The plan was first brought to the attention of the Washington public through the columns of The Washington Herald, when in November this paper reported the work done by the boat clubs of Baltimore in laying plans for the association.

A canvass among local rowing authorities shows a divided opinion here as to the need for such an association. The objections expressed against the plan is that the field is sufficiently covered by the present rowing associations and that the class of crews that could be obtained from such a restricted area would hardly be sufficient inducement for the local clubs to have their promising junior or intermediate crews enter.

The Washington oarsmen feel that they would rather train to win a large regatta where crews from most any section of the country would compete against them than to lose their class as juniors or intermediates against a few crews in a regatta that would be open only to a small number of clubs.

Another objection is that it is not thought that rowing clubs in this locality could support a regatta in any one city each year, or possibly every other year, which would be the case if the new association is formed, as the plan is not to have the Southern association supersede the association now in the field, but is to have it work with them, in which event the clubs in the two cities would have to bid for the Middle States or the National some time.

In reply to those who have expressed themselves against the plan, Frank Driscoll, commodore of the Patuxent navy, of Baltimore, stated that he thought a great deal could be gained from such an association that cannot be obtained from the means now at hand, even if the contests narrowed down to races between the two clubs in Baltimore and the two clubs in Washington, to say nothing of the other players in the game.

And there are the Ty Cobb, Cy Young, Honus Wagner, "Pop" Anson and other great records of great ball players not even dreamed of in the early days of the game. Speaking of records, that of Benny Kauff, star of the later Federal League, has some funny points. Benny, who played with the Brooklyn Dodgers last season, except for a few brief moments when he appeared in the New York Glens' outfit just before a game with the Boston Braves, is among his other accomplishments, a unique figure on the ball field—and for the benefit of Latin scholars, unique isn't derived from unus, meaning one, and equus meaning horse.

Kauff probably breaks more bats in a season than any other player—any day he breaks a bat. And the odd part of it is that, unlike all other ball players, he cherishes no favorite bat. He claims that the bats become "true" to him as he uses them.

Kauff usually starts a season with twelve new bats and gets in a new assortment every six weeks or so. If Kauff hits up a fly the first time he uses a bat, he breaks it immediately. If he gets a hit with a bat in its first use he declares the bat "a regular club." Should he bat out a fly or strike out the next time he uses the bat he doesn't break it immediately. He decides to give it another chance as a reward for getting a hit for him the first time he used it. But if he hits in his first trip to the plate with that bat he declares it broken.

The Federal League batting phenom is the Beau Brummell of baseball. He owns about thirty suits of clothes and he gives each suit a "work out" at least every two weeks. Kauff has been known to change his street clothes four times in a day. Two shifts a day is in keeping with his regular schedule, while three changes—especially on Sundays—is common occurrence.

Kauff has an uncountable supply of neckties and a roomful of shirts and fancy hose. His shirts, for the most part, are silk affairs, made up in daz from the fact that he pitched 345 innings. Ed Walsh, the Chicago White Sox veteran, pitched 322 innings in 1912, or forty-three games, setting the record of modern baseball. Last season Pat Moran, leavener in Grover Cleveland Alexander's outfit, pitched 318 innings, justifying about as many times as he thought possible, and Alex totallied 376 innings, 272 fewer than Radbourne.

Twirlers today go in about every fourth day. That is, considered often enough. Radbourne pitched every other game in 1884. He had to. Providence had no other dependable twirler, so it was up to Radbourne. And he made good.

George Stallings and Wilbert Robinson, two other managers, voted for Keeler, the diamond, and Morone, were catchers, two, Griffith and Callahan, were pitchers, and two, McGraw and Jennings, were infielders. So there is no chance of a prejudice in favor of pitching over other points in the great national game.

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## REAL PRINCE OF BASEBALL

Charles Webb Murphy Grabbed Cubs on Shoestring and Cleared One Million.

### TAFT FINANCED DEAL

By FRANK G. MENKE.

New York, Jan. 22.—Charles Webb Murphy and his associates paid \$115,000 for the complete control of the Chicago Cubs late in the winter of 1905-06, and during the 1906 season the team cleared 165,000—a net profit of exactly \$50,000 above the total cost of the deal.

The story of the Cubs and how Charles Murphy "ran a shoestring into a million dollars" is the one real romance in baseball.

Hart owned the Cubs when it was noised around that he wanted to sell. Murphy at that time was a newspaperman. He had \$10,000 or \$5,000. He went to Hart and asked for an option on the club, and then he started to work.

"I've got a chance to buy a ball club for \$100,000," Murphy told Charles P. Taft, owner of the paper for which Murphy worked. "I think that's a fine bargain figure. I am sure money can be made in the ownership of the team. Will you go in with me on this?"

### Taft Finances Deal.

When Taft found that Murphy was willing to risk all his money in the venture, he decided to go in with Murphy in the purchase of the club.

Murphy got 40 per cent of the stock, Frank Chance got 10 per cent, Charles Schmalz, a lawyer and a friend of Taft's, got 10 per cent, and for services as attorney in the deal, Taft got 40 per cent. Taft put up most of the cash.

When it came time to close the deal, Murphy produced the \$100,000, but Hart demanded an extra \$10,000 as "my commission." This request fanned Murphy and he argued long and furiously with Hart against the extra \$10,000.

But Hart was obstinate. Murphy finally went to Taft and explained the situation. Taft produced the other \$10,000.

With the change in ownership the Cubs seemed to become transformed. Murphy never had been figured as a real baseball club, yet in their first year under the Murphy-Taft regime they won the National League pennant and grabbed a slice of world series gold.

In 1908 the Cubs, then grown to be one of the greatest drawing cards in the National League, cleared \$185,000, and in the following year 1909, their high-water mark in profits was reached when the team cleared \$220,000 for its owners.

### \$125,000 Net Profit.

The next best mark made by the Cubs was in 1910, when they grabbed \$200,000 as their share in the regular season and world series contests. The poorest showing made by the Cubs was in 1915, when the net profits were estimated at about \$50,000.

Since once under the Taft-Murphy regime did the Cubs finish a loser in a financial way. During the ten years that Taft and Murphy controlled the club—1906 to 1915—their net profits aggregated \$1,250,000, a 1,000 per cent return on their money. Add to this the \$500,000 paid for the Taft-Murphy holdings of stock by Charles Webb Murphy and you find that the \$115,000 investment of 1905 returned close to \$1,800,000—which is a fair return—yes, quite fair.

## LEGLESS ATHLETE IS GREAT BALL PLAYER

Salvador Spizael, Although Minus of Limbs, Plays Shortstop for New Orleans Americans.

New Orleans, Jan. 22.—It is a good bet that every ball fan has heard of Tyrus Cobb. It is also a good bet that only a few of the multitude have heard of or seen Salvador Spizael.

Perhaps the comparison is not fair to Tyrus. Perhaps it is not fair to Salvador. It is doubtful, though, whether either would enter an objection because of the lowly position of the latter, who has made Cobb the greatest of them all has brought little Spizael out of the depths and made his lot, which has otherwise been very sad, a happy one.

Eight years ago little Salvador was a fine ball player, but in crossing the railroad tracks one day he fell and a freight train cut off his legs. He was hoisted and hoisted between life and death, and then gradually the wounds healed and his strength returned. After a long while he left the hospital on his miniature legs.

When Salvador was taken to the hospital he was a problem, for without him the team was crippled. When he came out he was furnished with another and more perplexing problem. He wanted to play on the team.

Shucks! He was one of the question. We ever heard of a legless ball player. How was he going to run, bat and field? They were sorry, but Salvador was out of the range of candidates.

But he was not without the heart of Salvador. He has lots of heart, and most of it is wrapped up in the greatest of outdoor games, baseball. He not having any legs did not make any difference, his heart was in the game, and that really is everything in baseball and the game of life.

And so he set about to convince them. He was heard of a legless ball player. How was he going to run, bat and field? They were sorry, but Salvador was out of the range of candidates.

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## TO A CADDIE

Suggested by Kipling's "If."

If you can watch the ball when all about you  
Are hashing shots and blaming it on you;  
If you can keep your eye on its gyrations  
Each time Old Slicer fails to follow through;

If you can drag, and not complain of dragging,  
The twenty clubs or more he hangs on to,  
And keep your mouth shut tight when he is bragging,  
Although you know there's scarce a word that's true;

If you can cheer your man when he gets yellow;  
Don't you look sour, but brace him with a smile,  
And tell him he can lick the other fellow,  
Although his chance is desperate all the while.

If you can make him see where hope's a glimmer,  
And make him fight when he's inclined to run—  
You'll know the joy of bringing home a winner,  
And—what is more—yourself will be some use!

There probably is nothing more aggravating to the average golfer than stretches of long, rank grass. In the fields called the Links, the grass is often found to be of abnormal length, resulting in many lost balls and much strong language. The other day a couple walking through the jungle came upon a consolation.

"Lost your ball?" queried one of them courteously.  
"No," sighed the other, as he removed his pipe from his mouth. "I've lost my bag. I put it down here ten minutes ago and I'm darned if I can find it."

The following interesting excerpt relating to the game of golf is culled from "Humphrey Clinker" by Tobias Smollett, one of the first of the English novelists.

"I never saw such a concourse of gentlemen at any races in England as appeared on the course of Leith, Scotland, in the fields called the Links, the citizens of Edinburgh divert themselves at a game called golf, in which they use a curious kind of bat, tipped with horn, and small elastic balls of leather, stuffed with feathers, rather than with cork, and of a much harder consistency. This they strike with such force and dexterity from one hole to another, that they will fly to an incredible distance. Of this diversion the Scotch are so fond, that when the weather will permit, you will see a multitude of all ranks, from the senator of justice to the lowest tradesman, mingled together in their shirts, and following the balls with the utmost eagerness.

A particular instance of this high-bred, though the appearance of the whom was turned of fourscore. They were all gentlemen of independent fortunes, who had amused themselves with this pastime for the best part of a century, the oldest among them being upwards of eighty years of age, and they never went to bed without having each the best part of a gallon of claret in his belly. Such uninterrupted exercise, co-operating with the keen air from the hills, made them all look high-bred, and the appearance of the whom was turned of fourscore. They were all gentlemen of independent fortunes, who had amused themselves with this pastime for the best part of a century, the oldest among them being upwards of eighty years of age, and they never went to bed without having each the best part of a gallon of claret in his belly. Such uninterrupted exercise, co-operating with the keen air from the hills, made them all look high-bred, and the appearance of the whom was turned of fourscore. 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